

30 August 1967

Mr. Charles Wyckoff
EG&G Inc.
160 Brookline Ave.
Boston, Mass. 02215

Dear Mr. Wyckoff

Your analysis of the Zapruder film of President Kennedy's assassination is an important contribution to the continuing investigation of that event. The coverage that CBS gave your work was, of necessity I suppose, rather limited. Unfortunately it is just this -- limited coverage and inattention to detail-- that has provided fuel for the critics of the Warren Commission.

As a case in point, your work could have (and perhaps has) provided answers to the many arguments about the number and timing of the shots fired. But CBS in reporting it did not point out why so many frames, other than those specifically mentioned, also show severe blurring. one critic (Ramparts' September issue) has already cited this shortcoming to discredit the conclusions.

Did the film he used contain frames 207-212? (209-210 are badly blurred)

The CBS report (and so far as I know, all of the prominent critics) ignored completely the other films that were used by the Warren Commission. The Warren Report contains frames from two other films -- Nix and Muchmore. A question left unanswered is whether those films show similar phenomena or could be expected to.

One of my more uncomfortable moments came when Cronkite followed your discussion of spalling with the comment: "That is one explanation from a physicist as to how a head could move backward after being struck from behind." I should think that it would indeed be of interest to pursue an analysis of the relative motion of camera, car, bullet, and victim to explain the apparent backward motion. (A physicist, using Warren Commission data, would find the momentum of the bullet at impact to be 5.38×10^5 gm-cm/sec. He would then argue about how much of that momentum was carried away by fragments of skull and bullet, and conclude that it was one hell of a jolt.) But CBS did not report any analysis you might have done on that point and resorted instead to a snow job.

Since the CBS treatment of your analysis left these and other points unsatisfactorily answered, I am wondering if a more thorough treatment might be available. In any case, I should like to hear your views on these points.

Sincerely,
Monroe O. Moen

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why were cameras other than Zapruder's checked for speed?